

Thirsk Rural District Council

Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Public Health Inspector
for the year
1961



THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

CHAIRMAN:

Lt. Col. M. C. W. P. Consett, J.P.
(Ex-officio Member of Health Committee)

VICE CHAIRMAN:

A. H. Gill
(Chairman of Health Committee)

COUNCILLORS:

J. Armstrong (F):	Miss V. J. Maynard, J.P. (H:PH):
W. F. Barton (F):	C. J. Megson (PH):
Major P. Bell, J.P. (H):	J. W. Ormston (F):
T. Bilton (PH):	J. Parlour (H):
A. Bosomworth (H:F):	G. W. Peacock (PH):
B. Bosomworth (PH):	M. Peckitt (H):
J. R. Bumby (H:F):	G. Reed (H:PH):
T. E. Clarke (PH:F):	H. V. Rutherford (PH:F):
F. A. V. Cook (F):	M. Sanderson (PH):
J. C. Dickinson (PH):	J. W. Stirke (H):
P. Fletcher (H:PH):	W. B. Stonehouse (PH):
J. D. Gill (PH):	W. Strickland (PH:F):
R. Graham:	S. F. J. Till (H):
L. M. Greensit (F):	H. E. Toothill (F):
Rev. D. J. Hill (H:F):	G. C. Turton (PH):
T. M. Jopling (PH):	Brig. J. F. Walker, J.P., (PH:F):
Mrs. C. E. Kenworthy (H):	R. H. Willis (H):

(H indicates Member of Housing Committee; PH indicates Member of Public Health Committee; F indicates Member of Finance and General Purposes Committee)

CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

W. A. Wilkinson

STAFF OF PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Medical Officer of Health:

H. Gray, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

R. M. Sharphouse, M.A.P.H.I., A.I. Hsg.

Additional Public Health Inspector:

A. N. Errington, C.S.I.B., (Cert. Meat and Other Foods)



I N D E X.

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR 1961.

To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is my privilege to present for your consideration my Annual Report for the year.

The statistics on the following pages are set out with a comparison with the previous year. Again the birth-rate is a little higher than that for England and Wales, 18.9 against 17.4, but the stillbirths and infant deaths, and the perinatal mortality rates are all higher than they should be. Whilst these rates fluctuate widely due to small numbers involved, nevertheless, taking the rates over several years they are still high. Many factors constitute to the preservation of the maximum number of infant lives such as economic standards, a high level of education and intelligence of parents, skilled medical and hospital care, housing, infections and we look to the future to improvement in all these fields.

At the other extreme of life it is a measure of our social consciences to care for the aged and the Council is alive to its responsibilities here. The aged persons scheme at Norby was further developed and is nearing completion, and during the year some anxiety was expressed at the lack of a County Council home in this populous Bulmer area. One hopes that in the not too distant future our old people will be able to pass their closing years within a reasonable distance of the area they have known and in which friends and relatives live.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

H. GRAY, M.D., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health.

Area of district	71,544 Acres
Estimated population Mid 1961	13,250
Number of Houses - Privately owned ...	3,959
Council	19 637.
Crown Property ...	265
Rateable Value	£151,992

Product of a Penny Rate	£600
	1960
Live Births	252
	1961
	232

Birth Rate/1,000 population	18.4
Corrected Birth Rate	19.9
	18.9

Illegitimate Live Births were 3 representing 1.3% of total Live Births.

Still Births - 6. Rate/1,000 Live and Still Births - 25.2

Total Live and Still Births

238

Infant deaths (deaths under 1 year).

7

<u>Infant Mortality Rates.</u>	1960	1961
--------------------------------	------	------

Infant deaths/1,000 Live Births	39.6	30.7
" " (England and Wales)	21.7	21.4

Legitimate infant deaths/1,000 Legitimate Live Births.	33.0	30.5
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Illegitimate infant deaths/1,000 Illegitimate Live Births	222	Nil
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Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per

1,000 total Live Births)	28.0	21.5
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Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per

1,000 total Live Births)	23.8	17.2.
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Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under

1 week combined per 1,000 total Live and Still Births)	42.8	42.0
--	------	------

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)

Number of Deaths	Nil	Nil
------------------------------	-----	-----

Rate/1,000 Live and Still Births	Nil	Nil
--	-----	-----

<u>Deaths</u> -	Male	Female	Total	1960	1961
	79	59 60	138		
Crude death rate/1,000 population ... ...	...	...	...	11.6	10.4
Corrected death rate (Factor 1.01) ... ...	...	...	...	11.7	10.5
England & Wales	...	...	...	11.5	12.0

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THIRSK RURAL DISTRICT.

		1960		1961	
		Male	Female	Male	Female
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	1	-	-	-
2.	Tuberculosis, other	-	-	-	1
3.	Syphilitic diseases	-	-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria	-	-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough	-	-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections	-	-	-	-
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	-
8.	Measles	-	-	-	-
9.	Other infective and par. diseases	-	-	1	-
10.	Malignant neoplasm - stomach	2	-	1	-
11.	" " - lung, bronchus	3	-	1	-
12.	" " - breast	-	5	-	2
13.	" " - uterus	-	1	-	1
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	7	4	5	4
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	1	2	-	-
16.	Diabetes	2	-	1	-
17.	Vascular lesions of the nervous system	12	13	4	12
18.	Coronary diseases, angina	18	10	17	13
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	-	2
20.	Other heart diseases	7	22	13	12
21.	Other circulatory diseases	3	3	3	2
22.	Influenza.	-	-	-	1
23.	Pneumonia	3	2	4	4
24.	Bronchitis	6	1	8	-
25.	Other diseases of the respiratory system	-	-	-	1
26.	Ulcer of the stomach and duodenum	-	-	1	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-	-	-
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	3	-	1	1
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate	3	-	-	-
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations	3	1	1	-
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	2	4	7	3
33.	Motor vehicle accidents	4	2	6	1
34.	All other accidents	5	-	2	-
35.	Suicide	3	-	3	-
36.	Homicide and operations of war	-	-	-	-
TOTALS		89	70	79	60

Notifiable Diseases.

The following cases were notified:-

	<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
Pneumonia	10 cases	8
Scarlet Fever	11	Nil
Dysentery	9	Nil
Whooping Cough	7	Nil
Food Poisoning	2	1
Measles	1	195
Meningococcal Meningitis	Nil	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	3
Ophthalmic neonatorum	Nil	1

During the past three years Measles has had a typical incidence showing large number notified in alternate years, with almost complete disappearance in the intervening one. It is pleasing to note the absence of diphtheria, poliomyelitis and whooping cough, the three diseases against which the majority of children are immunised. It would be more interesting to study the incidence of infectious diseases if only one could be sure that every case became notified. It is well known that certain diseases are more certain to be notified than others, hence the commencement of vaccination against whooping cough. Those children who now have a very mild attack may never be seen by a Doctor.

Other diseases which are of great importance are not notifiable, and in rural areas infection with *Brucella Abortis*, a germ which causes curtagious abortion in cattle and is frequently present in unpasteurised milk, occurs often through the consumption on the farm or in the village of milk from a herd, the bulk of which milk is sent for pasteurisation.

Water Supplies.

There was no repetition during the year of any contamination of the water supplies, the remedial measures taken by the Water Company appear to have been successful, and the supplies throughout the area seem to be adequate in quantity. The Ryedale Joint Water Board took over the Council's supply during the year but the Water Board continues to operate as before. The District Council retains its responsibility to check the quality of the water supplied from whatever source in its area, and this duty has been efficiently carried out.

Sewerage.

Sad to relate no start has been made on any new work during the year, although some preliminary paper work has been accomplished. There is some hope however that some pipes will be laid and works constructed during the coming year.

County Council Health Services in the Area.

Ambulance Service - at Castlegarth - Telephone Thirsk 2234. After 10 p.m.
the station is not manned but ambulance can be obtained from the Thirsk
Station by telephoning Northallerton 446.

Nursing Services.

+ Sinderby, Holme, Pickhill, Ainderby Quernhow	) Nurse Sutcliffe) S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.,) 1, North House Lane,) Baldersby.) Tel. Melmerby 66.
Thirsk, Sowerby, North & South Kilvington, Sutton, Thornborough, Hood Grange, Balk, Thirkleby, Bagby, Thirlby, Osgoodby, Brawith, Cowesby, Kepwick, Upsall, Boltby, Kirby Knowle, Felixkirk, Thornton-le-Street, Thornton-le-Moor, Newby Wiske, North & South Otterington, Maunby, Kirby Wiske, Newsham, Sandhutton, Carlton Miniott.	) Nurse Bradley.) S.R.N., S.C.M., Q.N.,) 19, Victoria Avenue,) Sowerby, Thirsk.) Tel. Thirsk 2133.
+ Langthorpe, Ellenthorpe, Milby, Kirby Hill, Humberton, Sessay, Hutton Sessay, Thornton Bridge, Fawdington.	) Nurse Walls, S.R.N., S.C.M.,) 1, Howbray Houses,) Carlton Miniott.) Tel. Thirsk 2263.
+ Topcliffe, Catton, Dalton, Skipton, Eldmire.	) Nurse Halliday,) S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.,) Hillside,) Asenby.) Tel. Topcliffe 335.
+ Kilburn, Birdforth.	) Relief Nurse) Nurse Boyes, S.R.N., S.C.M.,) Helpcby.) Tel. Helpcby 202.
+ Also Health Visitors for the area including School Nursing.	) Nurse Dickenson,) S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V.,) 34, East Lea,) Topcliffe.) Tel. Topcliffe 316.
+ Also Health Visitors for the area including School Nursing.	) Nurse Batty,) S.R.N., S.C.M.,) Home Farm Cottage,) Newburgh.) Tel. Coxwold 223.

A full time Health Visitor, Miss Sanders, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V., of
Borrowby, Telephone Upsall 262, carries out duty including School Nursing
in the Nursing area served by Nurse Bradley.

Infant Welfare Centres.

Knayton Village Institute - 1st Tuesday in each month at 2 p.m.
South Otterington (Mobile Clinic) - Tuesday every 4 weeks at 2 p.m.
Topcliffe R.A.F. Station (Mobile Clinic) - Mondays fortnightly at 2 p.m.
Thirsk & Sowerby Institute - Thursdays fortnightly at 2 p.m.

Vaccination and Immunisation.

		<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>		
Bulmer Area - Total Population	-	57,420	58,290		
No. of births in the Area				<u>1960</u>	<u>1961</u>
No. of children vaccinated against smallpox				1025	1044
No. of children immunised against diphtheria (primary)				601	661
No. of children immunised against diphtheria (booster)				1136	1120
No. of children immunised against Whooping Cough				561	589
				838	1083

It will be seen from the table above that the record of immunisation remains highly satisfactory. It is becoming quite rare to find unimmunised children. During the closing days of the year an outbreak of smallpox occurred in Bradford and there was a rush by a considerable number of people to seek vaccination as a panic measure. Our ambulance drivers are vaccinated annually in view of the special risk they run in an outbreak, and provided nurses, doctors, public health inspectors etc. have periodic vaccination, the occurrence of smallpox should be controlled by intensive contact visiting and vaccination. There is always the risk that when mass vaccination is carried out the dangers of vaccination are greater than those of contracting the disease.

During the year triple vaccine became generally used in the area giving protection against whooping cough, diphtheria and tetanus with a welcome reduction in the number of injections. The use of oral poliomyelitis vaccine will further reduce the number of unpleasant ordeals suffered by the infants. Although supplies of Salk vaccine became very curtailed during the latter half of 1961 the waiting list will soon be eliminated by using the new oral vaccine.

It is pleasing to note that apart from two cases of polio in unvaccinated children in 1958 no case has occurred since the scheme began in 1956.

Domestic Help Service.

This service is organised throughout the Bulmer Area from the Health Office, at Easingwold. It has not been possible to provide the extension of this service to include the Family Help Service, i.e. where a help is employed to take over all domestic duties in the absence of the sick wife, nor is a night sitter service provided as is the case in more densely populated areas.

Applicants for domestic help agree to pay the full charge of 4/-d. per hour or are assessed according to means. Domiciliary Confinement cases take priority, but the bulk of cases helped are the aged and chronic sick persons.

Cases helped in 1961:-

Maternity	16
Tuberculosis	-
Chronic Sick-Aged	106
Others	12

Total hours worked by domestic helps - 19,891

Twenty-four people paid the standard charge but many cases arise where the applicant finds help privately at less cost than the full charge. The National Assistance Board contribute 5/-d. where the applicant is in receipt of a supplementary allowance and this sum is then paid to the County Council weekly.

Health Education.

Considerable use is made of posters and other printed material and much is done in day to day teaching by nurses, health visitors and others.

Use is also made of a film projector and a film strip projector. In our publicity concerning smoking and cancer of the lung, our efforts are as nothing compared with the sales promotion of the tobacco manufacturers.

Section 28 - Care and After-Care.

To assist in the care of sick people in their homes the County Council is able to supply a wide variety of aids ranging from sick-room aids to wheel chairs and Oxford Hoists which enable heavy crippled patients to be lifted easily.

The Bulmer Voluntary Care Committee which was formed under powers granted by this section of the National Health Service Act is able to assist all cases of illness by provision of extra food clothing etc. and during the year organised a chiropody service. Miss L. Birkenshaw was appointed on a sessional basis and later in the year Mr. Reader-Parkes, appointed directly by the County Council became available in addition. Sessions are arranged as follows:-

	Morning Session	Afternoon Session
1st Tuesday	10-12 - Stockton-on-Forest, Congregational Church Hall.	2-5 - Folk Hall, New Earswick.
1st Wednesday	-	2-5 - Stillington, Village Hall.
2nd Tuesday	10-1 - Haxby, Village Hall.	2-5 - New Earswick.
2nd Wednesday	-	2-5 - Easingwold Grammar School.
3rd Tuesday	-	2-5 - New Earswick.
3rd Wednesday	-	2-5 - Newton-on-Ouse.
4th Tuesday	10-1 - Strensall, Village Hall.	2-5 - Strensall, Village Hall.
4th Wednesday	-	2-5 - Skelton, Village Hall.
Every 4th Thursday	10-1 - Osbaldwick M.C. 10-1 - Clifton	-

County Council Clinics.

Thirsk - 1st, 3rd, and 5th Wednesdays - 10 - 1 - 2 - 5
Helperby - Sessions arranged as necessary.

The service is largely used by people over 65 years of age but others eligible are expectant mothers and other handicapped persons. A charge of 2/- per treatment is made but this is waived in the case of those whose sole income is the old age pension with N.A.B. supplements. Whilst sessions are spread over the area, transport is still a difficulty and I am grateful to those who assist with this. In some clinics volunteers act as secretary and give very valuable service.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR 1961

To: the Chairman and Members of Thirsk Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the pleasure to present a report on the work done by the Council in carrying out its duties as Public Health Authority during the year ending December, 1961.

The two events occurring during the year likely to have the greatest long term effect on public health matters were the acquisition by the Council of 9.5 acres of land in Thirsk for housing development and the taking over by the Ryedale Water Board of the Council's public water supplies.

Progress appears to have been made with the sewerage systems, at least as far as plans are concerned.

The appointment of a full-time Clerk of Works will enable the Council to achieve a better standard of building and drainage supervision.

My appreciation is recorded of the services of Mr. A.N. Errington and the Council's Clerical Staff.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Ladies & Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

R. M. SHARPHOUSE,

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor.

WATER.

The larger part of the area, including Thirsk township itself, is supplied by the Thirsk District Water Company. The Council's statutory powers to supply the remainder of the district terminated in October and the Ryedale Water Board took over such duties. There are also some small villages in the area with 'parish' supplies, namely Howe, Upsall and Kepwick, which are controlled by private individuals but periodically tested to protect public health.

The Water Company water is mixed 'upland surface' and spring supply, with a total hardness of 103 parts per million (moderately hard). The water supplied to the Southern end of the district by the Ryedale Board is from an underground source and the hardness is 240 parts per million (hard).

Schemes which were commenced in 1960 for improving the supply were completed during the year.

A pipe direct from Kirby Knowle via Knayton to Thornton-le-Moor cured the long standing troubles in that village.

Full use was made of the capacity of the new 9" main from the Easingwold area by taking a new 6" pipe to Topcliffe, a 3" from Sessay to Eldmire and also by a new 6" pipe towards Islebeck.

HOUSING.

The Council's acquisition of about $9\frac{1}{2}$ acres of land adjoining the Hambleton Place Estate and the preparation of a scheme for the erection of 132 houses and bungalows was the first step to providing the dwellings which will enable the remaining slums in the town area to be cleared.

Only 19 dwellings were actually completed by the Council during the year, but a record number of private houses were added to the housing pool. Altogether 34 private houses were erected, including 12 on two private enterprise sites in the parish of Sowerby.

The nine bungalows erected on the Norby Estate completed the community scheme for pensioners as originally planned. The twenty-five bungalows, pleasantly grouped about open greens, and with an outlook towards the Holmes, must surely be one of the Council's best housing projects to date, particularly so as the site was originally that of the blackest housing spots in the rural district.

A fair amount of housing improvement proceeded but lack of proper sewers is still a serious retarding factor in many villages. Water borne sanitation and bathrooms are essentials in present day improvement schemes, and the provision of septic tanks is a satisfactory solution only where the spacing of properties would make the laying of a sewer an uneconomic proposition.

Statement A with this section of the report shows the disposition of Council Houses throughout the area, the type of houses, and the date of completion.

Statement B shows in tabular form the results of action taken in regard to unfit houses, and is compiled from the returns (Form P.13.(Hsg.)) which is submitted quarterly to the Ministry of Housing & Local Government.

Statement C shows the number of improvement grants approved, the Council allowing up to the maximum (£400) on Discretionary Grants Schemes during the year.

Statement A.

<u>Parish.</u>	Total	<u>Council Houses.</u>			Bung.	Built
		2	3	4		
Ainderby Quernhow	8	3	2	1		P.W. 51
Carlton Miniott	8		6	2		51
Dalton	12		9	3		55
Kilburn	4		3	1		49
Kirby Hill	8		6	2		50
Knayton	6		2			49 60
Langthorpe	24		10	6		P.W. 50 58
Newby Wiske	5	1	4			P.W.
Pickhill	6		5	1		53
Sessay	4		3	1		53
South Kilvington	8		4			P.W. 61
South Otterington	8		2			P.W. 49
Sowerby	134	20	37	19	14	P.W. 46 52 53
Thirkleby	4	4	9	3		51
		4	10	1		
		4	9	4		
		3				
		12	42	14	6	48
		8	14	3		52
		4				53
Thirsk	343	26	32	16		54
		4				56
		12	41	11		57
		2	31	9		58
		2	15	3	16	59
		10			4	60
					5	61
Thornton-le-Moor	9		6			49
			3			60
Topcliffe	46	2	8			P.W. 46
			6			53
			10	13	3	55
Total	637	106	357	121	53	

Statement B.

A. Houses Demolished.

In Clearance Areas

	Houses Demolished	Displacements		
		Persons	Families	
(1) Houses unfit for human habitation ...		-	-	-
(2) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement, etc.		-	-	-
(3) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1957		-	-	-
Not in Clearance Areas				
(4) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 17(1) Housing Act, 1957	1	-	-	-
(5) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	-	-	-	-
(6) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under local Acts	-	-	-	-
(7) Unfit houses included in Unfitness Orders	-	-	-	-

B. Unfit Houses Closed.

	Number		
(8) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1), Housing Act, 1957	13	32	13
(9) Under Sections 17(3) and 26, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-
(10) Parts of Buildings closed under Section 18, Housing Act, 1957	-	-	-

C. Unfit Houses made fit and Houses in which defects were remedied.

	By Owner	By Local Authority
(11) After informal action by local authority	40	-
(12) After formal notice under		
(a) Public Health Acts	-	-
(b) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act, 1957	-	-
(13) Under Section 24, Housing Act, 1957 ...	-	-

Statement C.

Discretionary (Improvement) Grants.

	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
No. Approved	1	3	18	69	45
Amount of grant	£288	£602	£4,772	£15,586	£10,085

	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961
No. Approved	48	59	36	60	37
Amount of grant	£10,974	£13,098	£8,097	£17,677	£9,601

Standard Grants.

There were 19 applications approved for the provision of the following amenities compared with 24 in 1960:-

Internal Water Closets	...	...	...	...	...	18
Baths	...	...	...	...	...	16
Wash-basins	...	...	...	...	...	17
Hot Water Systems	...	...	...	...	...	16
Foodstores	...	...	...	...	...	8

FOOD HYGIENE.

The number of premises in this area concerned with the preparation, treatment or storage of food is as follows:-

Grocers Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	45
Green Grocers	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Confectioners	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Bakehouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Wet Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Fried Fish Shops	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Butchers	...	...	...	...	...	...	13
Cafes	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Licenced Premises	...	...	...	...	...	...	53
Slaughterhouses	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Ice-Cream Manufacturers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Market Stalls (Approx.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	12
Mobile Shops (Approx.)	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Poultry Processing Factories	...	...	...	...	...	...	2

FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS.

Routine supervision of these premises was carried out as far as possible, the results of the inspections being as follows:-

Number of inspections made	...	...	...	...	...	52
Number of premises found not to comply	...	...	...	...	...	13
Number of defects	...	...	...	...	...	16
Number remedied	...	...	...	...	...	8

MEAT INSPECTION.

For all practical purposes a 100% inspection service has been carried out. Details and results of inspection are shown in tabular form.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
No. Slaughtered	504	-	2	1366	808	-
No. Inspected	504	-	2	1366	808	-
<hr/>						
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	1	2	1	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	15	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage diseased other than Tuberculosis or Cysticerci	3.0	-	50.0	.103	.19	-
<hr/>						
Tuberculosis only:						
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	1	-
Percentage affected with Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	.19	-
<hr/>						
Cysticercosis:	No evidence found.					

Weight of unsound meat voluntarily surrendered - 6 cwts. 7 stones

Weight of tinned foods " " " - 1 cwt. 47 lbs.

As a result of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1958, the Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food approved 1st April, 1961, as the date by which slaughterhouses in the area had to be brought up to the required standard.

Four slaughterhouses out of the original 11 were raised to the required standard.

ICE-CREAM.

The Council has a duty to keep a register of premises manufacturing or selling ice-cream.

There is only one manufacturer in the area, where the ice-cream is produced by the 'hot-mix' method. Specimens of the product were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory and found quite satisfactory.

There are also 31 vendors of pre-packed ice-cream.

MILK.

The Milk supplied in the area is a bottled designated milk, chiefly produced outside the area and delivered daily by lorry to the respective dealers premises, the empty bottles being returned for cleansing.

By virtue of The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is now responsible for the registration of Producer Retailer and the North Riding County Council is the registration authority for Retailers (only) of milk.

RODENT CONTROL.

The newly appointed full-time Operator commenced duties early in the year after attending a course of instruction organised by the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food.

A synopsis in tabular form of the inspections and treatments is given below:-

	Total	Type of Property			
		Local Authority	Houses	Business	Agricultural
Inspections	2360	670	967	392	331
Treatments:-					
Rats	60	20	11	18	11
Mice	12	-	4	8	-

Council properties, especially the refuse tip and main sewer network, were kept under strict supervision and given regular treatment.

SEWERAGE.

Schemes were brought to an advanced stage of preparation for certain villages in the area, and Ministry Officials attended local inquiries to consider such schemes. The villages concerned being:-

- (a) Topcliffe, Dalton and Sessay.
- (b) Bagby.
- (c) Pickhill, Sinderby, Holme-on-Swale and Ainderby Quernhow.

Scheme (b) was cleared and progress was then made towards inviting tenders.

Scheme (a) was to be re-considered in view of the uneconomic sewerering of Sessay village and the substantial volume of sewage from the poultry plant at Dalton.

Scheme (c) was referred back to the Engineer for consideration of a regional scheme based on Holme-on-Swale.

Though the larger villages in the area are either served by the existing main scheme, or will be dealt with by the proposals under consideration, there are still many villages where sewerage schemes do not look like materializing in the foreseeable future. In some smaller villages, Upsall for example, the provision of septic tanks as part of housing improvement has in fact removed the immediate need for schemes, but there are many other villages where the topography does not lend itself to this form of disposal.

The Public Health (Drainage of Trade Premises) Act, 1961, which extended the meaning of "trade effluent" to include drainage from farm premises necessitated re-thinking as regards the village schemes. The Council's decision, however, to charge farmers so much per head of livestock, plus a treatment charge, resulted in the exclusion of all such drainage matter from the proposed sewers, and the likelihood of its return to agricultural land for manurial purposes.

The present state as regards schemes in the various villages in the area is as follows:-

<u>Schemes already provided</u>	<u>Existing facilities considered satisfactory for time being.</u>	<u>Sewerage facilities required</u>
Thirsk	Birdforth	+ Ainderby Quernhow
Sowerby	Kepwick	+ Bagby
Carlton Miniott	Thornton Bridge	Balk
Sendhutton	Upsall	Boltby
Kilvington	Thornton-le-Street	Cowesby
Catton		+ Dalton
Howe		Felixkirk
Kirby Knowle		+ Holme
		Hutton Sessay
		Kilburn
		+ Kirby Hill
		Kirby Wiske
		Knayton
		+ Langthorpe
		Maunby
		Newby Wiske
		Newsham
		Norton-le-Clay
		+ Pickhill
		+ Sessay
		+ Sinderby
		Skipton
		South Otterington
		Sutton-under-Whitestonecliff.
		Thirkleby
		Thirlby
		Thornton-le-Moor
		+ Topcliffe.

NOTE: In the case of those marked thus + schemes are in an advanced stage of preparation.

The main disposal works at Sowerby were efficiently maintained, largely by one attendant, but the problem of sludge disposal grows more urgent each year. A serious attempt will have to be made to return this organic matter to its place of origin - agricultural land.

PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The Council continued to give a complete refuse collection service throughout its area, dustbins being emptied weekly, apart from at a few outlying properties, and ashpits and middens were dealt with monthly.

The abolition of the latter objectionable receptacles is being retarded to a large extent by lack of sewers in certain villages.

The Council's tip at Gravel Hole Lane received refuse from the whole area, and the tipping face advanced towards the highway and nearby housing estate.

For the first year since it was brought into use, complaints of nuisance were received. Though rat breeding was kept under control an infestation of crickets troubled tenants of adjacent dwellings, and innumerable fires had to be extinguished, many started by youths.

The paper sack system as a replacement for dustbins was seriously considered, but one feels that more experiment is needed before accepting it as the ideal.

The Council's vehicles at the year end used mainly for refuse collection were as follows, an average of 16 drivers and loaders being employed on this work:-

2 Shelves & Drewry 'fore-and-aft' tipplers.

1 Dennis Side-Loader (10 cubic yard)

1 - 1,000 gallon 'Yorkshire' Cesspool Emptier (pails and septic tanks)

The old Dennis Cesspool Emptier was pensioned off during the year but was retained for light duties on the sewerage disposal works.

PUBLIC CONVENIENCES.

The system of part time Caretakers was re-organized and generally the premises were kept in a clean condition.

Only one instance of serious damage occurred, and according to the turnstile readings 174,320 people passed through, compared with 166,879 in 1960 and 160,738 in 1959. /

MORTUARY.

The register shows that 21 bodies in all were accommodated during the twelve months.

VERMINOUS PREMISES.

No case of bed bug infestations was brought to light, and one hopes that such vermin are things of the past.

The odd complaint of cockroaches was effectively dealt with by the Rodent Operator using modern insecticidal powder.

FACTORIES ACTS.

Briefly the Council is responsible for general health provisions in factories without mechanical power, and for sanitary accommodation only in factories with mechanical power.

The particulars required by the Ministry are given on the prescribed form overleaf.

There are 78 factories on the register, and as a matter of interest a table is given classifying these industries under broad headings.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS.

Seven applications for site licenses were approved during the year.

These licenses concerned 14 vans for residential purposes and 34 for holiday use.

1. - Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspec- tions	Written notices	Prosecu- tions
i. Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	28	4	-	-
ii. Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	49	23	2	-
iii. Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	-	-	-	-
Total... .	77	27	2	-

2. - Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases.")

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation . .	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences:					
(a) Insufficient	3	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective . .	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork).	2	2	-	-	-
Total... . .	5	4	-	-	-

Schedule of Factories.

<u>Industry</u>							<u>Number.</u>
Agricultural Machinery	...	...	...	...	...	...	6
Armament Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Blacksmiths	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Bakeries..	...	...	...	...	...	...	5
Boot & Shoe Repairs...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Burling & Mending	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Builders & Joiners	...	...	...	...	...	...	11
Coal Gas..	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Egg Grading	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Electrical Repairs	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Foundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Grass Drying	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Laundries	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Motor Vehicle Repairs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	15
Malting ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Millers ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Poultry Packers	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Plumbers..	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Printers..	...	...	...	...	...	...	2
Sawmills..	...	...	...	...	...	...	3
Scrap Dealers...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses.	...	...	...	...	...	...	4
Tailoring.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
Tanneries.	...	...	...	...	...	...	1
						Total	<u>77</u>

